

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 33 – HB 503

February 5, 2013

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Expands the current offense of making non-emergency 911 calls to include any form of non-emergency 911 contact.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (002793): Expands the current offense of making non-emergency 911 calls to include any form of non-emergency 911 contact. Prohibits a Public Safety Answering Point or district from authorizing a provider of non-wireline service to divert harassing, non-initialized 911 phone calls, for a period of no more than 12 hours, to an entity designated by the emergency communications board to receive such calls. Removes liability for an emergency communications board, CMRS service providers, providers of non-wireline service, and PSAPs, and their employees, vendors, agents, and any authorizing government entities if any such entity does not divert harassing, non-initialized phone calls to an entity designated by the emergency communications board to receive such calls.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions applied to amendment:

- Currently, it is a misdemeanor offense to make a non-emergency 911 call for reasons other than what is believed to be or is an emergency. This bill would prohibit any such non-emergency contact including, but not limited to, texting.
- Any increase in misdemeanor offenses as a consequence of this legislation is estimated to be not significant.
- According to the Department of Commerce and Insurance, neither removing a provider of non-wireline service from diverting non-initialized, harassing calls nor providing immunity for any of the listed entities for not diverting such calls will not result in a significant fiscal impact.

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CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lucian" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

/jdb